New England Deaconess Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

pulse

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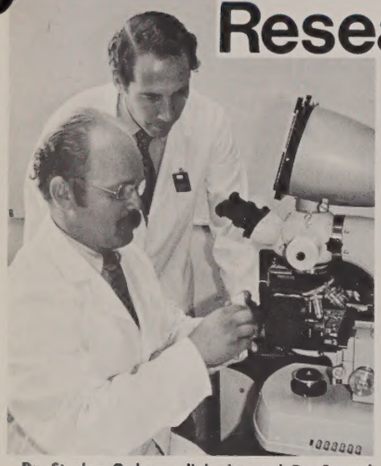
Researchers find link to Hodgkin's disease



Dr. Stanley Order, radiologist, and Dr. Samuel Hellman, director of the Joint Center for Radiation Therapy, look at a slide of a Hodgkin's disease tumor.

Research done by two Deaconess doctors at the Joint Center for Radiation Therapy (JCRT) brings the medical world a step closer to determining the nature of Hodgkin's disease. The scientists have evidence that tumor-associated or common antigens exist in patients afflicted with Hodgkin's disease.

Antigens are substances that may stimulate lymphocytes and trigger the release of antibodies. The antigens found in Hodgkin's disease are shared by the patients and are common to the disease.

Dr. Stanley Order, radiologist at NEDH and JCRT, is the principle investigator. He works closely with Dr. Samuel Hellman, chairman of the therapeutic radiology at NEDH and director of JCRT. Research commenced in 1969 shortly after Dr. Order joined the Deaconess staff.

Hodgkin's disease, cancer of the lymphatic system, is a chronic and potentially fatal ailment that can be cured in its early stages by radiation treatment. It may be a unique cancer in the way that the body reacts to the disease's intrusion.

In those patients with a favorable prognosis, one often sees great numbers of lymphocytes in the tumor nodules. This may indicate that the lymphocytes recognize something, such as an antigen, in the tumor process. Potential host resistance on the part of the patient is the implication that instigated Drs. Order and Hellman to go after that "something" to which the lymphocytes react.

Now that the doctors know there is a common antigen or chemical substance, they will work to determine whether the antigen, or antibodies to it, exist in the blood stream or in other body fluids. If they circulate or cause antibodies to circulate, there is a good chance that a screening test for Hodgkin's disease can be devised.

"If either are in the blood, it will give us an active tool to assess a patient's clinical course," states Dr. Hellman. He further explains that the disease rarely recurs in treated areas, but can appear in other parts of the body that are difficult to diagnose. The antigens could help to pinpoint the location and extent of the disease in the lymphatic system and other parts of the body.

Since Hodgkin's disease characteristically strikes young people between the ages of 15 and 30, a screening test could be routinely conducted at the time of traditional pre-college, pre-service and pre-marital physical examinations. If the antigen is specific or unique to Hodgkin's disease, it may be used eventually as a signal for this type of cancer. If it signals other types of cancer, it could still be very useful since the antigen, in abnormal quantities, would cause doctors to look for a tumor or to keep close watch for the development of cancer.

According to Dr. Order, "The thing that has made the disease amenable to modern therapy is the fact that we've learned in a considerable number of patients that the disease spreads in a contiguous manner; from one zone of lymph nodes to another zone of lymph nodes. It is not erratic but spreads, for instance, from the neck to the shoulder, or from the neck to the chest, or from the axilla to the shoulder to the neck."

This continuity makes Hodgkin's disease potentially curable. If the disease is confined to the lymphatic system, then the cure rate is high through the use of radiotherapy. If the disease spreads to the liver, other body organs and/or the bone marrow, the cure rate drops and chemotherapy be-

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Passbooks passé at Alpha Credit Union

Alpha Credit Union will automate its services, October 1, when its account with the State Street Bank is computerized. Quarterly statements will replace all pass books which become reference guides after that date. These statements will be issued by the bank and distributed through the hospital's inter-office mail service.

Each shareholder will keep his current account number and should retain his pass book until the first quarterly statement arrives in January. Identification cards, complete with name and account number, will be issued to shareholders in the near future.

In order to keep all accounts up-to-date, weekly listings will be filed with the Alpha Credit Union. The computerized listings will relieve Mrs. Margaret Shambow and Mr. Lou Szumski, credit union manager and assistant, of the tedious hand-posting duties. The automated system will also afford them more time to spend with individual shareholders.

All transactions will continue to take place in the Alpha Credit Union's Baker I office. It is hoped that the number of loans will increase now that Mr. Szumski and Mrs. Shambow can expedite the loan granting process after the accounts are computerized.

Shareholders from the Lahey and Joslin Clinics and the Deaconess are all included in the new system. A year-end statement will be distributed to everyone in January. It will be the first statement issued on the new system and will contain the total amount of interest earned during 1971.

Mr. Paul Ryan, systems and planning analyst, devoted the entire summer to the Alpha Credit Union's computerization. State Street Bank which handles a number of credit union accounts, is in the final phase of transferring Mr. Ryan's program to their computer.

School of Medical Technology appoints education coordinators

Mrs. Barbara Martin, Mrs. Adriene Guptill and Dr. Bradley E. Copeland discuss curriculum for the next class of medical technology students.

Two medical technologists from the Deaconess Pathology Department have been appointed education coordinators for the School of Medical Technology. Mrs. Adriene Guptill and Mrs. Barbara Martin are responsible for the supervision of training program details, the development of new teaching techniques, the coordination of the academic and clinical aspects of the program, and for the maintenance of close communication with Northeastern University.

Mrs. Guptill has worked at the Deaconess for ten years as a supervisor of the hematology laboratory and as a teaching supervisor for medical technology students as they rotate through hematology. For the past year, she has worked on a part-time basis in both supervisory positions. Mrs. Guptill received her bachelor's degree in medical technology from Colby Junior College, N. H., and Beverly Hospital, Mass.

A supervisor in the chemistry department, Mrs. Martin's association with the Deaconess began in 1961 when she enrolled in the hospital's medical technology program. She graduated in 1965 with a bachelor's degree from Northeastern University and has worked in the chemistry division since then. Mrs. Martin is also the supervisor of the urine analysis division of pathology. She teaches medical technology students in chemistry and urine analysis, and supervises them through their rotation in the latter division.

The School of Medical Technology has been operated for ten years by the Deaconess Hospital, New England Baptist Hospital and Northeastern University. It is in the midst of curriculum changes that are the primary responsibility of Mrs. Guptill, Mrs. Martin and Dr. Bradley E. Copeland, clinical pathologist and director of the school.

Employees channel security problems to year-old department

The security department's development under the leadership of Mr. Frank Tenore, security manager, marks the first time that its varied functions have been centralized in the hospital. In mid-October, the department celebrates its first anniversary of dependable performance.

"Now people recognize and call upon the security department to help with problems. Employees know they can report to and communicate with a central body," comments Mr. Tenore.

Security has taken many steps to better ensure the safety of property and person. Action toward key and lock control, better perimeter lighting and physical protection are a few of the firm steps taken. Closed circuit

Miss Ellen D. Howland, assistant director and director of nursing, and Mr. Frank Tenore, security manager, discuss locations for closed circuit televisions in the NEDH School of Nursing.

televisions are in the process of being installed in various strategic positions, such as: subsidiary entrances to the NEDH School of Nursing and entrance to the Joslin Clinic administrative offices.

Key control procedures are now a function of the security department. No key is made unless it is approved and issued through the office. When a key is issued, the individual requiring it must sign a form assuring his possession of and responsibility for it. Employees who attained keys before June, when signing was not required, will eventually be contacted. This close scrutiny helps ensure the key holder that the key affords the security for which it is intended.

Several bicycle thefts occurred at NEDH until security converted the cage in the employee's parking lot into a bicycle compound. This area is under constant surveillance by parking lot attendants during regular work-day hours and security guards control the lock and key to the compound during off-hours.

Property control is more than securing locks on exterior doors and windows. Responsibility for its success rests not just with the security department, but with every hospital employee. Common sense and personal awareness are the primary ways in which individuals can promote property security. Such things are locking your office door before leaving at night, keeping your wallet or purse either with you or in an inaccessible place, reporting the presence of strangers who act in a suspicious manner and reporting fire and safety hazards are all ways in which everyone can help maintain a comfortable security system.

Mr. Tenore and his assistant, Mr. Joseph Saulnier, maintain close communication with the police for reinforcement of traffic, safety and security needs. They also cooperate in terms of reporting information of an unusual nature to the police.

Every problem brought to the attention of the department, is investigated by Mr. Tenore and Mr. Saulnier. Complaints range from lost to stolen cars and purses, doors found open or unlocked and suspicious persons loitering in a hallway or lobby.

Preventative action is one of the primary functions of security in the opinion of Mr. Tenore. In addition to stressing personal awareness and responsibility, he expresses the need for a more comprehensive security program totally centralized within one department.

Mr. Tenore explains his concept of security by analogizing the department to the hub of a wheel, the Deaconess Hospital to the rim of a wheel and the interrelated functions to the spokes of a wheel. Each function has a related operation, for instance: physical security — planning and surveys; guards — badges and identification; personal security — information security.

A 24-hour guard service supplements the work done by Mr. Tenore and Mr. Saulnier. Five security patrol routes are covered on a continual basis and one stationary post is maintained by the guard force during off hours. Supervision of the guards is the responsibility of Sergeant Jerry Kennedy.

Guards not only affirm physical and property security, but on their patrols, they monitor the temperature of the blood bank refrigerators and the morgue; they note burnt out lights and broken stairs; and check to make sure that various pieces of equipment function correctly.

Mr. Joseph Saulnier, assistant manager of security, watches Sergeant Jerry Kennedy, supervisor of the guards, check the lock to the bicycle compound on Autumn Street.

"We make ourselves available to respond to the security needs of the hospital and its individual departments and employees," states Mr. Tenore.

Accessibility is probably the primary reason why the security department has developed such a dependable operation during one year. Much of the credit goes to Mr. Tenore and Mr. Saulnier who can be reached in their office at extension 2224. During off hours, security calls should be made to extension 2627. Prompt attention is given to all security problems.

Central lobby designed for Deaconess guests

Central lobby is the initial "welcome mat" that greets every visitor to the Deaconess. Last spring, its decor was adjusted to create a visually warm and comfortable lounge for guests.

The lobby is designed to afford the family and friends of patients a place away from the floors where they can relax. Furniture is arranged so families can sit in a home-like atmosphere in an area large enough to accommodate many hospital guests.

With the completion of the Central building, the main lobby must now accommodate the family and friends of the increased patient population. In view of the increasing need for Central lobby, employees are asked to stop using it as a lounge or waiting room. The lobby is designed for the accommodation and comfort of Deaconess guests and patients waiting to be admitted to the hospital; and the cafeteria is designed for the exclusive use of employees.

Seven students completed a year of training that qualifies them as operating room technicians on September 3. They are: (l.-r.) Miss Sharon Lusk, Miss Patricia Lucas, Miss Christine La Selva, Miss Loretta Brackett, Mrs. Lois Morrissy, instructor; Alan Zylinski, Miss Patricia Jay and Mrs. Harriett Gardiner.

Tuition assistance offers full reimbursement plan

Full-time permanent employees may apply for tuition assistance if they attain six months of service before the completion of classes. The hospital will reimburse the employee for the full tuition cost if the course is approved and successfully completed.

Since the tuition program is a reimbursement plan, Alpha Credit Union offers tuition loans to eligible employees. No interest will be charged to the employee for Alpha Credit Union loans given in accordance with the tuition plan. Evidence of payment and successful completion of the course is necessary in order to be reimbursed.

The maximum refundable course load is eight credits. Courses given at graduate or undergraduate levels by an accredited college or university, or by a correspondence program, are reimbursable through the tuition program.

The hospital does not authorize assistance for courses that are not necessary or are in excess of the requirements for the degree or certificate toward which the employee is working. Individual or select courses should relate directly to the employee's position at the hospital. Applications for the tuition program are available at the personnel department.

Service awards luncheon honors 31 employees

Employees who attained milestone years of service to the Deaconess during the months of May through July were honored at a special luncheon on July 22 at the Riverview Restaurant. Mr. Robert D. Lowry, executive vice president, spoke briefly to the award recipients before he and Mr. Richard E. Lee, director, presented them each with a service award pin. For the first time in Deaconess history, service award luncheons are held every few months to honor eligible employees. The posh spring dinner will still be held for all service award winners. By presenting the awards at the special luncheons, the spring dinner will be more of a social evening for the honored employees.

Five-year pin recipients are: (seated l.-r.) Mrs. Sally-ann Gaudaitus, anatomic pathology; Miss Suzanne E. Diffley, nursing school; Miss Dorothy L. Almon, housekeeping; Miss Artie Alexander, cashier; Mrs. Louise K. Alcott, service coordination; (standing l.-r.) Miss Valerie A. Marshall, clinical pathology; Mr. Thomas M. Leonard, pharmacy; Mr. Joseph E. Doherty, housekeeping; Mr. Clarence A. Frederick, dietary, and Dr. Herbert F. Gramm, radiology.

Twenty-five year award recipients honored at the July 22 service award luncheon are (left) Mrs. Ethel Feldmen, surgery, and Miss Edith Shea, dietary.

Employees who received their five-year pins are: (seated l.-r.) Mrs. Sandra J. Nimblett, medical records; Mrs. Eleanor L. Satham, clinical pathology; Mrs. Kathryn S. Thomas, anatomic pathology; Mrs. Theresa Ramos, housekeeping; Mrs. Nancy P. Whelan, night administration; (standing l.-r.) Mrs. Margaret Wheeler, housekeeping, and Mr. Salvatore Triolo, maintenance.

Ten-year service pin recipients are: (seated l.-r.) Mrs. Joanne M. Casella, clinical pathology; Mrs. Anne Doherty, clinical pathology; Mrs. Adriene S. Guptill, clinical pathology; Mrs. Alice M. Gallagher, administrative services; (standing l.-r.) Mrs. Harriet H. Bailey, clinical pathology; Mrs. Harriet Q. Wilson, nursing service, and Mrs. Virginia W. Nelson, nursing service.

Fifteen-year service pin recipients at the July 22 luncheon are: (seated l.-r.) Miss Mary M. Fallon, recovery room; Mrs. Minnie S. Speck, nursing service; Mrs. Eldora R. Tobey, nursing service; (standing l.-r.) Miss Ida B. Johnson, nursing service, and Mrs. Augusta M. Schurest, nursing service.

Memorial fund set for Miss Sherman

A memorial service was held at the Arthur T. Dooley Chapel, September 10, for Miss Ruth A. Sherman, licensed practical nurse who passed away August 27 at the Deaconess where she had cared for patients for 44 years. In recognition of Miss Sherman's dedication to her work at the hospital, a memorial fund has been established in her name for the career advancement of young women interested in becoming licensed practical nurses. Contributions to the fund may be sent to: The Ruth A. Sherman Fund, c/o Development Office, Room 520, 110 Francis Street.

Hodgkin's disease discovery . . .

Continued from page 1

comes the primary mode of treatment.

The research now being conducted at the Shields Warren Radiation Laboratory grew out of other research projects done by Dr. Order when he was at Yale University training under Dr. Byron Waksman, professor of immunology. Dr. Order credits his teacher for his knowledge of how to approach the problem and how to do the intricate technical maneuvers.

Research done by Drs. Order and Hellman involves the use of spleens normally removed from each patient afflicted with Hodgkin's disease. This surgery is routine in the management of the disease, but the investigation of the spleen tissue is the first of its kind.

If a tumor exists in the spleen, it is then taken and used to immunize rabbits. The animals produce antibodies against three things: the humanness of the tissue, the individuality of the tissue and the tumor.

Anti-sera is withdrawn from the rabbit and incubated with the normal area of the spleen which absorbs the species and the individuality antigens. The tumor-associated antigens are left on the tumorous tissues. Immunofluorescent and gel-diffusion tests have proven that this tumor-associated antigen is common in all patient spleens thus examined.

In the August 26 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine,* Dr. Order, Dr. Hellman, and Miss Marilyn Porter, a laboratory technician, reported on the preliminary findings of their research. At the time the article went to press, three patient spleens were involved in the laboratory work. Since then, nine other patient spleens have been examined and the findings have confirmed the common antigenicity.

The Deaconess Pathology Department plays an important role in the current Hodgkin's disease investigation. According to Dr. Order, "The pathology department here (NEDH) has been a bulwark of our efforts in that they helped us get the material necessary for the initial study. Dr. Meissner (chairman of the department), Dr. Haggitt (anatomic resident) and Mr. Bettinelli (chief histology technician) prepared all of the frozen sections on the spleen."

When the preliminary report was printed in the *New England Journal of Medicine,* it did not mention the gel-diffusion technique. This technique yields further evidence of the existence of the tumor-associated antigen noted by the immuno-fluorescence technique. Dr. Stan Chism, second year resident, has worked with Dr. Order and his new laboratory technician, Miss Helen Kowach, since June of this year. He is responsible for showing the common antigenicity of Hodgkin's disease tumors through gel diffusion.

The Deaconess Hospital contributed "the ultra-violet microscope which is *the* most necessary tool in the study . . . without it we couldn't do anything," asserts Dr. Order. The microscope's major role is identification. It shows the tumor-associated antigen fluorescing in the malignant tissue.

Hodgkin's disease represents 1% of all cancer, but it is the most common cancer to strike people between the ages of 15 and 30. As doctors become more willing to send their patients in for radiotherapy and chemotherapy treatment, the apparent incidence of Hodgkin's disease patients may increase.

The reluctance of doctors to send their patients for treatment stems from the long-expounded but outdated theory that Hodgkin's disease is 100% fatal. For persons who have stage I Hodgkin's disease, the cure rate is 70-80%. As more lymph glands and/or organs become involved in the disease process, the cure rate drops to a low percentage.

Since the potential cure rate drops in the later stages of the disease, the benefits are apparent for a screening test that would note the disease in its early stages and/or pinpoint the location of the disease.

The researchers stress the fact that there is a great deal more to learn about Hodgkin's disease and the characteristics of this newly identified antigen. The antigen's discovery is a step towards the possible detection and subsequent increased cure rate of this once "hopeless" disease.

Miss Ellen Howland, director of nursing, welcomes the first brother and sister team to their freshman year at the NEDH School of Nursing. Maria and Paul Coss are two of 70 students who began their freshman year on September 13. Paul and two other male students, Carl Stone and Michael Galatis, are the first men to enter the school. They will live in one of the Autumn Street apartments.

Mr. George Muncey, respiratory therapy supervisor, congratulates one of seven students who completed the year-long respiratory therapy technician course on September 3. Awaiting the presentation of their certificates are: (l.-r.) Martin Talbot, Miss Carol Kiley, Jim Pinney, Miss Janet Good, Mrs. Deborah Ford, Xavier Henriquez and Miss Cheri Stern.

> "Advice is like snow; the softer it falls, the longer it dwells upon, and the deeper it sinks into the mind."
>
> *Samuel T. Coleridge*

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pulse

The New England Deaconess Hospital Complex, including the Medical Office Building at One Ten Francis Street, Lahey and Overholt Thoracic Clinics, the Joslin Diabetes Foundation, Inc., the Cancer Research Institute and the Shields Warren Radiation Laboratory, is internationally known for diagnosis, treatment and research in general medicine, brain and chest surgery. cancer and diabetes.

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SMILE FREQUENCY:
(rate yourself per day)

..... Less than 5 times
..... Between 5 and 15 times
..... Between 15 and 25 times
..... Between 25 and 40 times
..... Between 40 and 55 times
..... Always
..... Never

Practice helps! So, if you rate yourself less than 30 smiles a day, exercise your facial muscles in a pleasant upward curve.

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